

MINUTES
RICHWOOD CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting, Monday, October 14, 2013
Richwood City Hall
1800 N. Brazosport Blvd.
Richwood, TX 77531
6:00 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Clint Kocurek, Mayor and presiding officer.

A. Opening Prayer

The opening prayer was given by Glenn Patton, City Manager.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

C. Texas Pledge of Allegiance

The Texas Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

II. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Roll call showed the following members present:

Clint Kocurek, Mayor and presiding officer
Paul Raymond, Council, Position #1
John Pitts, Council, Position #2 and Mayor Pro Tem
Jarrod Beaty, Council, Position #3
Morgan Laird, Council, Position #4
Donna Lacy, Council, Position #5

A quorum was declared. Others present included Glenn Patton, City Manager, Karen B. Schrom, City Secretary, Kenny Williams, Public Works Director, Tracy Burton, and Michele Story.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

On motion by Councilman Beaty, seconded by Councilman Lacy, with all members present voting aye, it was duly adopted to approve the minutes of September 9 and September 30, 2013 as presented.

IV. ANYONE WISHING TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Michele Story, 214 Halbert, addressed Council regarding Ordinance No. 382, prohibiting commercial vehicles from parking in residential zones in Richwood. She stated she had no problem with the intent and actually welcomed the restriction. Her concerns came from the wording of the ordinance as she felt

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it was rather ambiguous. She expressed concern that school bus or day care drivers will no longer be able to drive their vehicles home during the day and she felt that cargo style vans, sanitation trucks, and larger passenger vans would also be affected. She feels the ordinance's impact is greater than the intended impact. Mayor Kocurek stated he would direct the City Attorney to review the Ordinance.

V. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

A. Public hearing - variance request to the side setback requirements to build a boat shed/carport at 518 Oyster Creek Dr.

The public hearing was opened at 6:14 p.m.

Mr. Tracy Burton was present to address his request for a carport/shed to protect his existing boat. It will be bolted to the ground and will meet all windstorm requirements. He included pictures of his property and similar projects around town. The shed will be 10 feet from the neighbor's house, rather than the required minimum of 15 feet. His current neighbor has expressed that he has no problems with the proposed project.

Councilman Beaty asked Mr. Burton if he planned to extend the concrete. Mr. Burton stated that no he didn't. Councilman Pitts asked if he would still have access to his backyard and he said that he would.

With no further discussion, the public hearing was closed at 6:23 p.m.

B. Variance request - variance request to the side setback requirements to build a boat shed/carport at 518 Oyster Creek Dr.

Councilman Pitts asked about the pictures of similar projects that were presented by Mr. Burton. Mayor Kocurek explained that while they were similar projects, they differed because they required no variance. Mr. Patton stated that while the current neighbor may have no problem, if the house is ever sold, the new owner may not be happy about the proximity of the shed/carport.

Councilman Laird made a motion the variance request be granted. Councilman Pitts seconded the motion. Councilman Laird and Raymond voted aye. Councilman Pitts, Beaty and Lacy voted nay. The variance request was denied.

C. Animal and Fowl Permit request - 3 chickens at 241 Success

The ownership of chickens is allowed and the property in question meets all the requirements of the Livestock Ordinance.

Motion was made by Councilman Pitts, seconded by Councilman Raymond. Councilmen Raymond, Pitts and Lacy voted aye. Councilmen Beaty and Laird voted no. The Animal and Fowl permit for 3 chickens was approved.

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D. Road and Bridge Interlocal Agreement for Fiscal Year 2014

On motion by Councilman Pitts, seconded by Councilman Beaty, with all members present voting aye, the Road and Bridge Interlocal Agreement for Fiscal Year 2014 with Brazoria County was approved as presented.

E. Ordinance No. 387 - Setting speed limits for Audubonwoods III Subdivision and placement of stop signs

On motion by Councilman Laird, seconded by Councilman Pitts, with all members present, Ordinance No. 387, setting the speed limits for Audubonwoods III and the placement of stop signs was approved as presented.

F. Ordinance No. 290A - allowing outdoor burning for land clearance only in lots 1 acre or larger

It was asked if the police would be able to police this if folks did not follow the ordinance. Mayor Kocurek stated that yes they would. Councilman Beaty asked if this would apply to any lots 1 acre or larger in the older part of the city. Mr. Patton stated that no, it wouldn't since TCEQ required that all such fires be at least 300 feet from other property. He also explained that such permits will be approved by the Fire Chief and that all fires must be manned at all times.

On motion by Councilman Pitts, seconded by Councilman Beaty, with all members present voting aye, Ordinance No. 290A - allowing outdoor burning for land clearance only in lots 1 acre or larger was approved as presented.

G. Authorize the letting of bids for demolition of old City Hall buildings at 215 Halbert

On motion by Councilman Beaty, seconded by Councilman Pitts, with all members present voting aye, it was duly adopted to authorize the letting of bids for the demolition of the old City Hall buildings at 215 Halbert.

H. Resolution No. 13-06 - Supporting Brazosport Levee/Velasco Drainage District Bond Proposal

On motion by Councilman Pitts, seconded by Councilman Beaty, with all members present voting aye, it was duly adopted to approve Resolution No. 13-06, supporting Brazosport Levee/Velasco Drainage District Bond Proposal.

I. Approve addition to splash pad at Richwood Municipal Park

On motion by Councilman Beaty, seconded by Councilman Lacy, with all members present voting aye, it was duly adopted to approve the addition to the splash pad at Richwood Municipal Park. The project cost is \$49,594.80.

J. Reschedule November's Council Meeting

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The second Monday in November falls on Veteran's Day which is a holiday for the city. On motion by Councilman Laird, seconded by Councilman Beaty, with all members present voting aye, it was duly adopted to approve rescheduling November's Council meeting to Monday, November 18.

K. Approve Certified Tax Roll

On motion by Councilman Lacy, seconded by Councilman Beaty, with all members present voting aye, it was duly adopted to approve the Certified Tax Roll as presented.

L. Appointment of City's representative and alternate for H-GAC's 2014 General Assembly

On motion by Councilman Pitts, seconded by Councilman Laird, with all members present voting aye, it was duly adopted to appoint Councilman Raymond as the City's representative and Jarrod Beaty as the alternate for H-GAC's 2014 General Assembly.

M. Consider meeting twice a month

On motion by Councilman Raymond, seconded by Councilman Pitts, with all members present voting aye, it was duly adopted to meet the second and fourth Monday of each month except November and December beginning this month.

N. Authorize electronic meetings - electronic packets and purchase of necessary equipment

On motion by Councilman Beaty, seconded by Councilman Morgan, with all members present voting aye, it was duly adopted to authorize electronic meetings and the purchase of all necessary equipment.

O. Payment of bills

On motion by Councilman Pitts, seconded by Councilman Beaty, with all members present voting aye, it was duly adopted to pay the bills as presented.

P. Financial Report

The financial report does not reflect the final report for FY 13 as bills and revenues are still coming in but it does give a good indication of where we will end up in our fund balances. Water/Sewer was budgeted for a loss due to overages in several projects including the water wells.

VI. **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Patton reported that he and Mr. Williams met with representatives from Utility Metering Systems regarding electronic meters. They will be at the October 28th meeting to present their information. According to their information, the City is losing approximately \$20,000 per month on un-metered water. We use high flow meters and they don't always read small flows and this greatly affects the reported flows at the apartment complexes. According to their projections, the system should pay for

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itself within 3 years and the warranty on the equipment is exceptional.

Effective October 1st, we have a new permit and inspection office. Jennifer Beaty has moved up to Administrative Assistant for the Public Works Director and she will now be responsible for zoning, replatting, etc. We are taking steps to become paperless in that office. Marcy Gonzales is the new utility clerk.

The Elections Division of Brazoria County will hold their primary and general elections at our new City Hall.

Lift station #3 is in need of repairs. We are experiencing problems with the ductile iron. Our hope is to do the work in house with the assistance of Mr. Dubose. More details will be presented at the October 28th meeting.

We are hoping to have the ribbon cutting on a week day and the open house on a Saturday so that more residents can attend.

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Utility Metering Systems
Lift station #3
Boardbook - paperless meetings

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were none.

IX. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Kocurek reported that Manvel will host BCCA this month. He encouraged Council to attend as they will be discussing the radio system.

He appointed the committee to revamp the City's website. Members include himself, Mr. Patton, Councilman Beaty and Ms. Schrom. Mayor Kocurek also encouraged Council to think about future plans for the old City Hall property.

X. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

APPROVED BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF COUNCIL ON OCTOBER 28, 2013.

Clint Kocurek, Mayor

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ATTEST:

Karen B. Schrom, City Secretary